

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A cooperative system comprising:
a plurality of information systems; and
a hub system connected to said plurality of
systems,
said hub system comprising:
conversion means for converting a message received
from a first information system to a form suitable for a
second information system, said second information system
being destination of said message; and
decision means for determining necessity of
message conversion and a kind of conversion.

2. A hub system connected to a plurality of
information systems, said hub system comprising:
conversion means for converting a message received
from a first information system to a form suitable for a
second information system, said second information system
being destination of said message; and
decision means for determining necessity of
message conversion and a kind of conversion.

3. A hub system according to claim 2, further
comprising:
flow control means for determining a flow and
destination of a message received from said first
information system based on a class of said message,
wherein said decision means further determines
whether said flow control means should be used.

4. A hub system according to claim 2,

wherein said conversion means comprises:
protocol conversion means for conducting protocol
conversion; and

message conversion means for conducting message
form conversion, and

wherein said decision means checks protocols used
in the first information system and the second information
system, and if the protocols are the same, said decision
means judges protocol conversion to be unnecessary.

5. A hub system according to claim 4, wherein said
protocol conversion means conducts conversion from a
protocol used in said first information system to an
internal protocol in said hub, and conducts conversion from
said internal protocol to a protocol used in said second
information system.

6. A hub system according to claim 2, wherein said
decision means determines processing to be conducted on the
received message in accordance with decision rule.

7. A hub system according to claim 6, wherein said
decision rule associates a business class included in the
received message with a message processing content.

8. A hub system according to claim 6, wherein said
decision rule associates an amount of money included in the
received message with a message processing content.

9. A hub system according to claim 6, wherein said
decision rule associates user information included in the
received message with a message processing content.

10. A hub system according to claim 6, wherein said

decision rule associates a message originating system with a message processing content.

11. A method for making a plurality of information systems cooperate, said method comprising the steps of:

✓ connecting a hub system to said plurality of systems;

receiving, in said hub system, a message from a first information system;

determining, in said hub system, necessity of message conversion and a kind of conversion;

if necessary, converting, in said hub system, said message to a form suitable for a second information system, said second information system being destination of said message; and

transmitting said message from said hub system to a second information system.

12. A method according to claim 11, further comprising the steps of:

determining, in said hub system, whether flow control should be conducted, said flow control determining a flow and destination of a message received from said first information system, based on a class of said message; and

conducting, in said hub system, flow control when it has been determined that flow control should be conducted.

13. A hub program executed by a computer to make a plurality of information systems cooperate, said hub program executing the steps of:

receiving a message from a first information system;

determining necessity of message conversion and a kind of conversion;

if necessary, converting said message to a form suitable for a second information system, said second information system being destination of said message; and

transmitting said message to a second information system.

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